

Thursday | 17th March 2022



# THE ABA WEEKLY



[www.abaoman.org](http://www.abaoman.org)



## GOODBYE AL KHUWAIR CAMPUS








It has been quite a bittersweet emotional week. Bidding adieu to our Al Khuwair campus of 34 years was certainly not easy, but we look forward to a wonderful time at our Al Irfan campus.

## ABA AQUATICS

The ABA Aquatics 'Learn to Swim' programme aims to teach swim skills in a play orientated progressive manner, beginning from toes in the water for the first time, to staying involved as a sport.

Bookings open for kids aged 4-18. To ensure that your child starts at the right level, **register through this form!** Hurry, and book an assessment today. 



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### ES COFFEE MORNING - THE MOVE!

We had over 70 parents join the Elementary leadership team for our last coffee morning for this term. Information was shared about the move to Al Irfan, in particular regarding the facilities, zones of regulation, whole school 'Who We Are' unit of inquiry, school timings and other logistical information. Check the **coffee morning slides** for more detailed information and frequently asked questions. You can also watch the presentation using this **link**.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## NEW BEGINNINGS

Our last week on the Al Khuwair campus for staff, teachers and students has been full of mixed emotions, after all it is the end of an era. ABA has been on the Al Khuwair campus since 1987; a new chapter is about to begin.

EVERY  
ENDING  
IS A NEW  
BEGINNING

## MS VIRTUAL COFFEE MORNING

A big thank you to all the parents who joined us for the MS Virtual Coffee Morning which was all about 'The Move'. More information regarding your questions will be communicated as routines, drop off & pick up, ASAs, facilities, and other logistical information is finalised. Therefore, it is imperative that you check your emails and read this weekly bulletin to keep up to date. If you missed the meeting, here is the link - [\*\*The Move\*\*](#)

## MS CONNECTS



Advisory Discussion  
15th March

During **MS Connects**, students focused on change and how to prepare for it, and how it can affect us in different ways. Students discussed what they would miss about the campus and memories were shared; they also looked to the future, talking about what they were looking forward to at the new school. Students also took part in a Kahoot, took campus photos and talked about nostalgia.

**Watch the new  
MS Connect video [HERE!](#)**

## MS SOLVES



MS Students explored a STEM engineering project - building structures to take the weight of a heavy textbook, using only gummies and toothpicks.





## MS EXPLORES

Passion Project time; students were given the opportunity to direct their own learning for 80 minutes.

There is a tremendous creative energy that comes from exploring an idea or participating in an activity that ignites our excitement and curiosity! In the spirit of capturing this enthusiasm, students spent time investigating an idea that fueled their passion! They seized this opportunity to learn what they wanted to learn.



## MS TRACK AND FIELD

Our MS track and field athletes quickly learned how to use sprint starting blocks! Great job!



## LAST DAY ON CAMPUS

Vipers Spirit Day with Vinnie the Viper



Grade 6 met with Grade 1 to share stories and buddy read.



Revisiting previous Grades, playing games & ringing the break bell!



A fitting end to our time in Al Khuwair.



## MS SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR AL IRFAN

Session Times	Details
7:30	Drop off starts - Teachers on Campus
7:45	Students on campus; Teachers in rooms
7:50 - 8:05	Registration
8:10 - 9:30	Block 1
9:30 - 9:35	Break (5 minutes transition)
9:35 - 10:55	Block 2
10:55 - 11:30	First Break (35 mins)
11:30 - 12:50	Block 3
12:50 - 13:25	Second Break (35 mins)
13:25 - 14:45	Block 4

## MS AL IRFAN ORIENTATION DAY

The first day back after the spring break on March 27th will be an orientation day for the Middle School; students will be off timetable touring the different school buildings, taking part in a variety of orientation activities and learning their new routines, timetables, timings, break areas and more.

**The Middle School Team & MS Faculty would like to wish you a restful and relaxing holiday.**

## GRADE 8 SUBJECT CHOICES

Please have a read through the **MYP Choices Booklet Here.**



## PARENTS EVENING

**Click Here** to join the **Parents Evening** on 28th March, 5-6 pm (GST)

# HIGH SCHOOL

## GRADE 9 AND 10 VIRTUAL PARENT COFFEE MORNING



On Wednesday morning we held a virtual coffee morning, the notes can be accessed **HERE.**

## JUNIOR AND SENIOR PROM 2022 - THIS EVENING

Thank you to the High School Student Council and Prom Committee (supported by Ms Barker) for organising this event. The students will grace the red carpet in fine style to celebrate a semester and a half of hard work and switch off a bit before getting back to their study commitments.



There is much excitement as we have been unable to host Prom for the past two years. As a precaution, this will be a much more low-key event involving Grade 11 and 12 students only. A separate celebration has been planned for Grades 9 and 10 in the coming weeks. Look out for Prom photo highlights after the spring break!



# ABA ATHLETICS

Vinnie the Viper had a wonderful time greeting the ES and MS students on the final day of campus this week. There was a great buzz and lots of fistbumps, smiles and selfies as those divisions said goodbye with Vinnie to ABA Al Khuwair.

## MS/HS Season 3 Sports Schedule

Please see attached the Season 3 sports calendar to assist you with which child will be at which campus (and times) during this transition window. Some notable changes are MS Track and Field and Badminton which will begin and conclude a little later given the Al Irfan 2.45 school dismissal time. MS basketball practices will all begin in the week of April 3, which will give students time to have orientated themselves at Al Irfan.

Grade 8 HS Track and Field Athletes will leave their last class at Al Irfan (on practice days) slightly earlier, given the need to transport down to the Sultan Stadium and join the HS Al Khuwair team there. At this point, they will take the bus there and return to Al Irfan on the practice days with this starting first day back, March 27th.

### SPEECH AND DEBATE JUDGES NEEDED!

Thank you for the response last week to judging at the MESAC speech and debate event in April. We still have a couple of open spots to fill **so please be in touch with Mick Cooper via email if this is something you can commit to.**

**mcooper@abaoman.org**



Relevant details and training will be provided but basically, you watch a few students present their motions or speech, evaluate them and send in the judge ballot via a google form. This is all done virtually.

If you have experience with debate clubs, public speaking, MUN or toastmasters , you are ideal for this event, but anyone interested can be a judge in this unique tournament to MESAC schools. We are at this point really needing Judges to fill up the Friday afternoon , April 22nd spots

#### **Debate (teams of 2 debate an already known resolution)**

Thursday, April 21st - 2.15 - 4.30 pm and 4.45 - 6.15pm

Friday April 22nd- 2.00 - 4.00

#### **Speech (Serious Oral Interpretation-Individual students read a passage from an already written source)**

Tuesday, April 12- 4.15 - 6.15pm

Wednesday, April 13 - 4.15 - 6.15pm

Thursday, April 21- 2.00 -4.00pm

Friday, April 22 - 2.00 - 4.00pm

#### **Speech (Original Oral - Individual students recite a passage they have composed)**

Thursday, April 21st - 2.00 - 4.00pm

Friday, April 22nd - 2.00 - 4.00pm

**Have a great break everyone and thank you for the continued support with our programmes.**

# UNIVERSITY UPDATES

## NEW ABA PARTNERSHIP WITH GLOBAL CAREERS EXPERTS

InvestIN (career immersion specialists) is a recognisable name within our school. This is owing to the positive experiences our students have had completing their spring/summer experiences as well as the parent seminars they offer each semester.

This week, we formalised our partnership with InvestIN! Among the Partner School benefits, all ABA students can access a unique **10% discount** when they register for any InvestIN programmes ([full list here](#)) by entering a special discount code (available from [Ms Barker](#)).



The company will also deliver complimentary 'employability' workshops for students. Please view their [letter](#) to the ABA parent community and have a look at their Summer 2022 opportunities (face to face and online).

## STUDENT SUPPORT

### PARENTS AS PARTNERS - WEBINAR SERIES

Learn about new strategies to support your child as a learner and how you can positively impact student growth and achievement through the Parents as Partners webinar series put out by the Near East South Asia Council of Overseas Schools. If you haven't already done so, you can register by following this [link](#). There are three more live webinars\* this semester. By registering you can also view past sessions, which have been recorded, as distinguished specialists explore topics related to child development within the context of family and school. A complete description of the webinars can be found [here](#) and recordings can be found at the Parents as Partners [info hub](#).

## 2ND SEMESTER JANUARY - APRIL 2022

- Stretching Your Learning Edges: Adults "Growing Up" while Children are "Growing Up"
- The Power of Making Thinking Visible
- Navigating Parental Polarities
- Why Service Learning Matters to Schools, Your Children, and YOU: Bringing Learning to Life
- Building a Parent Pandemic Partnership: Strengthening Your Wellness, Self-Care and Self-Compassion
- \*International School Parents: Champions of DEI(B)J — Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Justice
- \*Supporting Your Child's Learning Through Effective Guidance
- \*Reflecting on the Journey

## 1ST SEMESTER SEPTEMBER- DECEMBER 2021

- Journeying Together: Parents as Partners in Social Emotional Learning
- A Parent's Guide to the Science of Attention
- In Our Classrooms, In Our Schools: What is the Story of Learning?
- Getting the Most from the Marshall Memo
- Neutral Spaces: Tips and Tools for Avoiding Power Struggles
- Writing the New Story of Wholeness, Integration and Inclusion
- At What Cost? Defending Adolescent Development in Fiercely Competitive Schools
- Positive Education and the Science of Wellbeing



## MOTHER LANGUAGE PROGRAM

A big welcome to our new German teacher, Ms Anne who will join our program after the holidays. Please kindly fill in [the form](#) if your child is interested in joining her classes.



We are still finalising the last details of our new timings and procedures in the new campus. Those will be communicated by emails as well as through the whatsapp groups used by the MLP teachers.

**The MLP team wishes you a restful break!**

We have also found an Afrikaans teacher, however we need more students to open a class, therefore please kindly fill in the form if your child is interested in taking Afrikaans classes.



# PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION



On Sunday, the 6th of March we had a lovely coffee morning! We are starting the process of looking for parents who might be interested in joining the PTA team next year. If you would like to know more please do get in touch on [PTAchair@abaoman.org](mailto:PTAchair@abaoman.org)

After the break, our first PAL activity will be with Ruby, a certified Integrative Nutrition Coach, who will talk about controversial ingredients in food. We are looking forward to you joining on Wednesday, the 30th of March at 10am.

**(Online meet Link)**

The timing of this activity could not be better as this is just before Ramadan when some of us focus on detoxing spiritually and physically.

Save The Date! **CONTROVERSIAL INGREDIENTS IN FOOD**

Join Ruby, a Certified Integrative Nutrition Health Coach, for a talk about the 12 most detrimental ingredients in processed foods, and WHY you should avoid them!

Wednesday March 30th, 10a.m.

Jigsaw Wellness

With the blessings of Ramadan

## RAMADAN FOOD DRIVE

will start on  
**28th of MARCH**  
and continue until 2nd of May

**NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS / Ramadan Boxes**  
can be dropped off at

**Al Khuwair:** Admin building  
(during school hours)

**Al Irfan:** Inside the lower ground parking  
- at the entrance to the Athletics Centre  
only between 8am and 1pm.

Thank you very much!  
Your PTA Team

The PTA is happy to be able to have the **Ramadan Food Drive** this year! The Food Drive will start on March 28th and continue until May 2nd. Non-perishable food items / Ramadan boxes can be dropped off at both campuses!

Al Khuwair - in the admin building during school hours

Al Irfan - inside the underground parking entrance to the athletics center between 8am and 1pm

As a last note we would like to give our community artists a heads up on **Art-effect**. The PTA Art Exhibition is now planned for the 26th of May! More info will follow after the break!



# VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB

## ICE FRENZY

At the last Ice Frenzy of the Al Khuwair Campus, Middle School and High School enjoyed some delicious ice creams to cool off and beat the heat. So much so that we were all sold out by the end of second break for the first time! Fantastic viper vibes all around.



## LIMITED EDITION HOODIES

A big thank you to the ABA community for the incredible success of our Special Edition Vipers Hoodie sale to celebrate the "Next Chapter of Our Story."



## COMMUNITY MEET - MEET THE VBC

Want to join the team and know all about the VBC? Join us on Monday the 28th of March from 10 to 11am .

Our nominations for the next academic year will soon be open for the entire community and this is a great opportunity to join the Google meet and ask any questions.

[Click here for the Google meet link](#)

**Best wishes to everyone moving to the new campus after spring break. Happy holidays to all!**

**-VBC committee members**

*Enjoy your*

SPRING BREAK